AirUWS Wireless Network – detailed notes for XP

This fact sheet covers connecting to AirUWS, the University wide wireless network released in 2007. The current version of this fact sheet will be available at http://www.uws.edu.au/wireless.

The initial rollout for PCs is restricted to users of laptops running Microsoft Windows XP with Service Pack 2 and Internet Explorer 6 (IE 6). Other software and operating systems may work, but aren’t supported. Although they may detect and connect to AirUWS, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) cannot login to, or use AirUWS.

AirUWS extends the existing wired network and is available at key locations on each campus, including teaching spaces and other areas where students congregate. Coverage maps for each campus are available at http://www.uws.edu.au/wireless, and we’ll be providing signage to show where you can find campus wireless zones.

If your laptop meets the specifications available at: http://www.uws.edu.au/wireless, you have administrative user rights on your laptop, and you have an active MyUWSAccount login, you’ll be able to access the wireless network at no additional charge. The IT Acceptable Use of Resources Policy and other relevant policies apply to all users of AirUWS, just as they apply to users of the wired network.

Unlike using the wired network, staff computers won’t automatically connect – you’ll need to follow the connection process before using networked services.

**Preparation:**

**You**

If you haven’t already done so, activate your MyUWSAccount at https://myuwsaccount.uws.edu.au/. You’ll need administrative user rights on your laptop to install the required software. Almost all regular users of UWS owned standard laptops are “Self Managed Mobile Users” and will have sufficient rights.

**Your laptop**


All users of UWS owned standard laptops must successfully log into their laptop at least once while it’s connected to the wired network, before they can log into the same laptop on either the wireless network or as a stand alone device. A successful wired network login is required to establish your user account on the machine. This is not an issue for privately owned laptops.
Your web browser
To access the internet via AirUWS, your browser must use our proxy server. UWS owned standard laptops will have the correct settings by default; however users of all privately owned computers will need to ensure their proxy settings are set to automatically detect settings. You may need to change this setting back to that recommended by your Internet Services Provider (ISP) for non-UWS use.

- Open Internet Explorer’s Tools menu → Internet Options → Connections tab → LAN settings… → ensure Automatically detect settings is the only option ticked → click OK.

IE’s proxy settings

Internet Explorer 6 users will need to change a setting so that IE uses HTTP 1.1 through proxy connections. IE 7 has this setting enabled by default. This setting should not need to be changed back for non-UWS use.

- Open Internet Explorer’s Tools menu → Internet Options → Advanced tab → scroll to HTTP 1.1 settings → tick Use HTTP 1.1 through proxy connections → click OK.
If you have a complex home page address (URL) or a blank home page, the UWS browser redirect feature may not work. If you have any problems opening the login screen, try setting your home page to [http://www.uws.edu.au](http://www.uws.edu.au), which is known to redirect properly. Changing your home page back for non-UWS use is optional.

- Open IE’s Tools menu → Internet options → General tab → Home page → enter the new home page details → click OK.
If your browser is set to reuse windows when launching a shortcut (eg, clicking a link in Outlook) rather than opening a new window, you run the risk of accidentally moving away from the portal page and being disconnected. This setting works on or off campus.

- Open IE’s Tools menu → Internet Options → Advanced tab → scroll to Browser settings → **untick** Reuse windows for launching shortcuts → click OK.

![Internet Options settings](image)

Make certain **Reuse windows for launching shortcuts** isn’t ticked

**Connecting:**

Turning your wireless hardware off until you have logged into Windows may reduce start up and shutdown times, and connected performance is likely to be less erratic.

After logging into Windows, turn your wireless hardware back on and enable it. Most laptops have a switch that turns wireless on or off, but the method varies between brands and models. Some Acers have a separate switch, and LGs use the keys Fn + F6. Refer to your laptop’s user manual for more information.

![Acer's wireless on/off switch](image)
To enable your wireless connection, locate your My Network Places icon, which will be on your desktop if you use XP in classic mode, or in your start menu if you use XP mode. Right click the My Network Places icon and choose Properties from the pop-up menu. Alternatively, open Network Connections from the Control Panel, which opens the same window.

Right click the wireless connection and choose enable from the pop-up menu.

Right click the wireless connection again and choose View Available Wireless Networks, which now appears in the pop-up menu. Viewing Available Networks is also available after right clicking or double clicking the wireless network icon in your system tray, located in the bottom right hand corner of your screen.

**Note:** Using other than standard Windows network drivers (eg Intel’s PROset) may mean you’ll follow a slightly different procedure to detect and connect to networks.
Choose View Available Wireless Networks

Your Wireless Connection Window will open. You may find more than one wireless network is visible – select AirUWS and press Connect.

After selecting AirUWS, click Connect
Wait for the process to show you’re connected. This should take under 30 seconds.

The wireless hardware is now connected to AirUWS

UWS owned standard laptops try and synchronise as soon as the wireless connection is established. Because you haven’t yet authenticated, synchronisation will fail.
Authenticate (log in)

Open Internet Explorer. You should be automatically redirected to the login portal, where you’ll enter your MyUWSAccount login details.

After logging in, Internet Explorer will download and launch TunnelGuard, which checks your laptop meets the AirUWS specifications. If TunnelGuard doesn’t start, you probably need to update your Java Runtime environment (JRE). A direct link to the Java installation file for XP is available on the login page. Alternatively, use a connected computer to go to http://java.com/en/download/manual.jsp and download the offline version to your USB drive. Return your USB drive to your laptop, and install the JRE. TunnelGuard should now work after you login. If TunnelGuard finds your laptop doesn’t comply, it will prevent you going further.
If your laptop complies, the portal window will open and NetDirect (Nortel Networks Virtual Private Network (VPN) client) will automatically download and run. This software establishes your wireless connection to the internet and intranet.

When NetDirect successfully installs, you’ll see a banner message welcoming you to the campus VPN Gateway. You must wait for this message before going further (it may take a minute or so). Press OK. **Note:** If you don’t see the message, you haven’t connected – close Internet Explorer and start the authentication process again.

Click OK on the welcome message. A Nortel NetDirect bubble notification will also appear in your system tray.
For security reasons, each time you connect you’ll go through the authentication, download and installation process.

I’m connected – what can I do?

Don’t close the AirUWS portal window, or you’ll be disconnected!

Once fully connected, minimise the portal window, but don’t close it. If you close the portal window, you’ll be disconnected from AirUWS and have to start again.

Open a new instance of your browser to surf the web. Opening a new instance means that you’ll need to click the icon used to launch the browser program again – don’t just open a new window or a new tab. Programs such as Internet Explorer, MSN Messenger, and email software should work normally.

To improve security, all users of AirUWS will be required to authenticate again when they try to access external websites. This process will be familiar to students, as it’s the same as required when using the general purpose computer labs. Enter your MyUWSAccount details when the login box appears, and press OK to continue. You should only be asked to authenticate once per browser session – that is, if you close your browser, or logout of AirUWS, you will need to re-authenticate when next you try to access an external website. If your browser stays open, and you stay connected, you should not be asked to authenticate again.

Note: UWS recommends using your ISP's web portal to access your home email account. This will minimise potential problems reading or sending email from that account. If you use email software such as Outlook, Eudora or Thunderbird, you may not be able to send email. Setting the "SMTP server" to "smtp.uws.edu.au" within the email software should solve this problem. Unfortunately, UWS cannot provide any further assistance with access to non UWS email accounts.
Students will soon be able to access their My Documents via AirUWS, using the web. This feature is still undergoing testing before release.

Privately owned computers will **not** be able to connect to network shares, synchronise off-line files or print, but will have internet access. If you need to print from a privately owned laptop, we recommend saving your work to a USB drive, which you can take to an on campus computer lab to print as you normally do in the labs.

Staff using UWS owned standard laptops will be able to print normally, synchronise off-line files, and connect to their network based files and any shared network drives they are permitted to access.

Click this icon to see if you are able to connect to your network based drives

The Offline Files Status window opens after clicking the icon

**How do I log off?**

_Always use the logoff link on the portal page._

Users of UWS owned/leased standard computers should save their work, manually synchronise their files, close open programs (other than the AirUWS portal page), and use the logoff link on the portal page. They should disable their wireless connection before shutting down. Doing so prevents the computer attempting to synchronise files and save settings to the network on logout, which can cause your computer to hang for long periods.

Users of privately owned computers should be sure they save their work, close programs linking them to the network (other than the AirUWS portal page), and use the logoff link on the AirUWS portal page.
Minimum specifications:
The minimum specifications will be subject to change as different configurations are tested and certified for use.

- **The current specifications can be found at:**
  http://www.uws.edu.au/wireless

Help
Students should contact the Teaching Technology Officers located at each campus’ general purpose computer labs in the first instance. Students can also contact the Helpdesk for phone based support.

Staff should contact the Helpdesk.

**Helpdesk**
Phone:  02 9852 5111 (ext 5111)
Email:  helpdesk@uws.edu.au

**Tips:**
You **must** leave the portal window open or you will be disconnected from AirUWS.

**Save often.** Wireless networks are inherently less reliable than wired networks, and you could potentially lose your data if your network connection is lost. Save often to minimise your risk of losing data.

Don’t try and connect wirelessly while still running a wired connection – the laptop will get confused about which connection to use.

Updating your laptop’s wireless drivers can give a much more reliable and consistent service, however, the appearance of your network connection may change.

Inactivity timeouts apply. UWS has a limited number of licences available for wireless connection. To be fair to all, users will be automatically logged off after a lengthy period of inactivity, to allow others to connect.

After logging into their computer, but before logging into the wireless network, users of UWS owned standard computers will receive the warning “Windows cannot locate the server copy of your roaming profile. Attempting to log you on with your local profile….” This is normal, because the roaming profile will not be available until you are network connected. Press OK, and then proceed as per the start of this document.

**More information:**